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SUBJECT: (Optional) National Drug Enforcement 20 November 1985	Policy Bo	ard Mee	ting		
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THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WASHINGTON

180-180-1999 35- 1371/7

7 November 1985

Dear Bill:

This note confirms the date of November 20, 1985, for the next National Drug Enforcement Policy Board meeting. We will convene at 10 a.m., in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

The enclosed tentative agenda includes several important items. If you wish additional issues placed on the agenda, please notify Staff Director Patrick Tarr. Confirmation of your attendance should also be made through his office on 633-3435.

The minutes of the September 20, 1985, Policy Board meeting are enclosed.

Sincerely,

Edwin Meese III

Enclosures

The Honorable William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, DC 20505

AGENDA

(PROPOSED)

NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD MEETING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1985

ROOSEVELT ROOM

10:00 a.m.

- I. Drug Crisis Management
- II. Budget Presentation - 1981 1986
- III. National Security Aspects of Drug Trafficking
 - A. National Intelligence Estimate
 - B. Proposed Actions
- IV. Prevention Activities
 - A. National Partnership
 - B. United States Attorneys Activities
 - C. First Ladies Conference
 - D. DEA Programs
- V. Staff Director's Report
- VI. New Business
- VII. Open Discussion

MINUTES OF MEETING NATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT POLICY BOARD SEPTEMBER 20, 1985

The National Drug Enforcement Policy Board (NDEPB) held its third meeting on September 20, 1985, at 10:00 a.m. in the Roosevelt Room at the White House.

Chairman of the Coordinating Group, D. Lowell Jensen, provided an update on this year's cannabis eradication program and on the recent decision regarding the Environmental Impact Statement. Cannabis cultivation appears to be a growing problem in the United States. Linkage continues between the United States response to domestic cultivation and eradication programs in foreign source countries. The decision by DEA to permit herbicidal eradication of cannabis on Federal lands in the United States is a firm and unmistakable signal of United States intentions.

Mr. Meese noted that his recent meetings with the Attorney General of Mexico were positive resulting in "cautious optimism" for the future of drug control programs in Mexico. There is no firm date for the law enforcement summit meeting in October. Security of DEA personnel in Mexico continues to be a major concern. Mr. Jensen added that the anticipated extradition of Arturo Durazo from the United States to Mexico will have a positive impact on our relationship with the Mexicans. Mr. Meese continues to be concerned with the length of time it takes the United States Courts to extradite drug defendants, and he voiced this concern at the Judicial Conference on September 17, 1985.

Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger presented an overview of the role that the military could play in drug law enforcement, especially interdiction. He believes the Policy Board mechanism is an important step in the process of assimilating and coordinating narcotics control responsibilities among several departments, and he called for the development of an interdiction strategy. Mr. Weinberger believes improvements are possible in the area of intelligence collection and sharing in relation to drug enforcement activities. He believes an intelligence center, perhaps patterned on the _______ model, would be productive. Board members viewed this suggestion with enthusiasm, and it was referred to the Coordinating Group to review and develop policy options for the Board's consideration.

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Mr. Weinberger summarized sixteen proposals that had been sent in a letter to the Attorney General. DOD is committed to increase its assistance to drug law enforcement agencies while keeping within current legal restrictions. The Coordinating Group was requested to review these sixteen proposals and return to the Policy Board with recommendations. The Attorney General, Secretary James Baker, and Deputy Secretary James Burnley all

acknowledged improved assistance from the Department of Defense in recent months.

As mentioned above, a policy review of the National Strategy would provide the framework for assessment of some of DOD's sixteen proposals. Deputy Director of the CIA, John McMahon, noted that a Narcotics Intelligence Estimate on the relationship between drug trafficking and terrorism is underway. A first draft should be completed by the end of October, and the Attorney General requested that it be made available to the Policy Board at that time.

Assistant Secretary of State Jon Thomas presented a summary of international drug control activities. He noted a major shift by foreign countries who have come to see the worldwide effects of drug abuse and drug trafficking. He believes the United States, because of its serious commitment against drug abuse, has excellent international credibility. Mr. Thomas then summarized major programs country-by-country.

Mr. Thomas recalled the spontaneous interest in drug control issues at the Bonn economic summit meeting last Spring. Experts from the seven participating countries recommend that drug control issues be placed on the agenda at the economic summit in Japan in 1986, and Mr. Thomas is hopeful that the foreign ministers will approve this during their meeting in New York the last week in September.

Mr. Meese briefly described the responsibility of the Board to review drug law enforcement resources. He delegated to the Coordinating Group and OMB the task of developing a review process that is to culminate with a presentation to the Policy Board in late November or early December. The process should include a review of resources by enforcement strategy or other categories and include the years 1985, 1986, and 1987 (following OMB passbacks). This informational presentation to the Board should set the stage for the Board to provide guidance to agencies' FY-88 budget submissions. However, the Board would not be precluded from making comments or recommendations to the President and the Budget Review Committee regarding FY-87 levels.

Mr. Meese requested the Staff Director to arrange the next Policy Board meeting for late October. The budget review process would be outlined at that time.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

